

NOTE

The Status of *Nomia foxii* Dalla Torre  
(Hymenoptera: Halictidae)

T. D. A. Cockerell mixed the various species of *Nomia* (*Curvinomia*) in his published papers (e.g., see Ribble, 1965. Univ. Kans. Sci. Bull. 45: 302-303). *Curvinomia* contains six valid species and one valid subspecies. Even though I (1965: 277-359) revised this subgenus and examined the type-specimens still in existence, confusion over the proper scientific name remains with three of the species (Hurd and Linsley, 1974. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 76: 198-199; Hurd, 1979. pp. 1941-1942. In Krombein, K. V. et al., eds., Catalog of Hymenoptera in America North of Mexico. Smithsonian Institution Press).

The three species in question and their synonyms are as follows:

1. *Nomia* (*Curvinomia*) *tetrazonata* Cockerell, 1910 (= *moctezumae* Crawford, 1911; *californiensis* Michener, 1937).
2. *Nomia* (*Curvinomia*) *universitatis* Cockerell, 1908 (= *punctata* var. (?) Fox, 1893).
3. *Nomia* (*Curvinomia*) *foxii* Dalla Torre, 1896, new name for *punctata* Fox (= *punctata* Fox, 1893 [preoccupied by Smith, 1875]; *mesillensis* Cockerell, 1908).

Even though specimens of *tetrazonata* have been misidentified, as well as other species as it, by Cockerell and others, there is no question that *moctezumae* and *californiensis* are junior synonyms (see key and diagnoses in Ribble, 1965, for identification).

In 1965 (p. 296) I stated, "Cockerell (1906a) selected Denver as the type locality for *foxii*. This is an incorrect designation of the type locality, because the Denver [and South Dakota] specimen probably was an *universitatis*, which is Fox's 'variety.' Cockerell later (1908) correctly selected the 'New Mexico species as the true *foxii*' (!)." In selecting a lectotype, the rules and procedures of zoological nomenclature require the lectotype to be "typical" for the species and match the description (e.g., see Mayr, Linsley, and Usinger, 1953. Methods and Principles of Systematic Zoology. McGraw-Hill, New York, pp. 241-242). I continued, "The specimen from New Mexico most closely agrees with the description of *punctata* [= *foxii* D. T.], while *universitatis* most closely agrees with Fox's (1893. Entomol. News 4: 134-135) var. (?)." The specimen from Denver has been lost, but on circumstantial evidence it fits (contrary to Hurd and Linsley, 1974<sup>1</sup>) *universitatis* or Fox's var. (?) which then would not be typical of *foxii*.

<sup>1</sup> Two errors in this paper may cause confusion: Page 198, line 20, "Ribble (1905)" should be "Ribble (1965)"; and line 38, "new Mexico species" should be "New Mexico species."

The restrictions of the type-locality by Cockerell (1906. *Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc.* 32: 289–314; 1908. *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (8) 2: 323–334) were not accompanied by the designation of a lectotype. I (1965: 298) was the first to designate a lectotype for *foxii*: "Cockerell (1908) did not specifically designate the New Mexico specimen as the lectotype, but that was clearly his intent. I therefore here designate the female from Vega San Jose, New Mexico, as the lectotype of *N. foxii*." In view of the fact that the New Mexico specimen was the only remaining syntype of *foxii*, this action seems entirely prudent. An amendment to Article 74. Lectotypes.—(a) Designation of a specimen.—(1974. *Bull. Zool. Nomencl.* 31: 85) of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (1964. London) stated "(ii) The first published designation of a lectotype supersedes all previous restrictions of the use of the name of the species. Example.—The type-locality becomes the geographical place of origin of the lectotype, despite any previous restrictions of the type-locality."

Because of my lectotype designation, *mesillensis* is a junior synonym of *foxii*, and the list above, therefore, shows the correct synonymies as I did in 1965.

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#### NOTE

#### Hybridization between *Gerris alacris* Hussey and *Gerris comatus* Drake and Hottes (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Gerridae) in Nature

Males of two middle-sized northeastern species of *Gerris* Fabricius, *G. comatus* Drake and Hottes and *G. alacris* Hussey, are easily identified. Tufts of golden hairs within the two impressions of the first genital segment ventrally are unique among males of *G. comatus* and a prominent mesosternal scent gland (omphalium) characterizes *G. alacris* males (Calabrese. 1974. *Mem. Conn. Entomol. Soc.*, pp. 227–266; Drake and Harris. 1934. *Ann. Carnegie Mus.* 23: 179–240). While collecting specimens from adjacent populations of *G. alacris* and *G. comatus* at a lagoon at Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania in June 1980, I took a certain hybrid between the species. The venter of the specimen, a male, is shown (Fig. 1). Both the long hairs on the first genital segment ventrally and the prominent omphalium are present.